

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of the claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) A chimeric peptide of formula (I) or formula (II),

(I) N-(S)_m-(T_h)_n

(II) (T_h)_n-(S)_m-C

or chimeric peptides which are mixtures of formula (I) peptides, mixtures of formula (II) peptides, or mixtures of formula (I) and formula (II) peptides, wherein:

N is the first 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acid residues from the free N-terminus of a naturally-occurring amyloid β peptide internal peptide cleavage product that is formed by proteolytic cleavage of β amyloid precursor protein (βAPP) a precursor protein or a mature protein;

C is the last 2, 3, 4, or 5 amino acid residues from the free C-terminus of a naturally-occurring amyloid β peptide internal peptide cleavage product that is formed by proteolytic cleavage of β amyloid precursor protein (βAPP) a precursor protein or a mature protein;

T_h is a promiscuous T helper cell epitope;

S is a spacer amino acid residue;

m is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5; and

n is 1, 2, 3, or 4.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously presented) The chimeric peptide or peptides according to claim 2, wherein said internal cleavage product has an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7.

4. (Currently amended) The chimeric peptide or peptides according to claim 1, wherein N is the first 2 or 3 amino acid residues from the free N-terminus of amyloid β peptide internal peptide cleavage product.

5. (Currently amended) The chimeric peptide or peptides according to claim 1, wherein C is the last 2 or 3 amino acid residues from the free C-terminus of said amyloid β peptide internal peptide cleavage product.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously presented) The chimeric peptide or peptides according to claim 1, wherein said promiscuous T helper cell epitope is a T cell epitope from tetanus toxin, pertussis toxin, diphtheria toxin, measles virus F protein, hepatitis B virus surface antigen, *Chlamydia trachomatis* major outer membrane protein, *Plasmodium falciparum* circumsporozoite, *Schistosoma mansoni* triose phosphate isomerase, or *Escherichia coli* TraT.

8. (Original) The chimeric peptide or peptides according to claim 7, wherein said promiscuous T helper cell epitope has an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 8 to 27.

9. (Original) The chimeric peptide or peptides according to claim 1, wherein S is glycine.

10. (Original) An immunizing composition, comprising an immunizing effective amount of the chimeric peptide or peptides according to claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, excipient, diluent, or auxiliary agent.

11. (Original) The immunizing composition according to claim 10, wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable auxiliary agent is an adjuvant.

12. (Original) The immunizing composition according to claim 11, wherein said adjuvant is alum.

13. (Withdrawn/Currently amended) A method for immunization against [[the]] a free N-terminus or free C-terminus of an amyloid β peptide internal self peptide cleavage product that is formed by proteolytic cleavage of a precursor protein or a mature protein, comprising administering to a mammal the immunizing composition according to claim 10, for which the amyloid β peptide internal peptide cleavage product is a self molecule of the mammal.

14. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 13, wherein the mammal is a human.

15-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously presented) A chimeric peptide of formula (I) or formula (II),

(I) N-(S)_m-(Th)_n

(II) (Th)_n-(S)_m-C

or chimeric peptides which are mixtures of formula (I) peptides, mixtures of formula (II) peptides, or mixtures of formula (I) and formula (II) peptides, wherein:

N is the first 2, 3, or 4 amino acid residues from the free N-terminus of a naturally-occurring internal amyloid β peptide cleavage product that is formed by proteolytic cleavage of an amyloid precursor protein;

C is the last 2, 3, or 4 amino acid residues from the free C-terminus of a naturally-occurring internal amyloid β peptide cleavage product, that is formed by proteolytic cleavage of an amyloid precursor protein;

T_h is a promiscuous T helper cell epitope;

S is a spacer amino acid residue;

m is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5; and

n is 1, 2, 3, or 4.

22. (Previously presented) The chimeric peptide or peptides according to claim 21, wherein m is 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5.

23. (Previously presented) The chimeric peptide or peptides according to claim 21, wherein said internal amyloid β peptide cleavage product has an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7.

24. (Currently amended) The chimeric peptide or peptides according to claim 27 ~~claim 21~~, wherein N is the first 2 or 3 amino acid residues from the free N-terminus of said internal amyloid β peptide cleavage product.

25. (Currently amended) The chimeric peptide or peptides according to claim 27 claim 21, wherein C is the last 2 or 3 amino acid residues from the free C-terminus of said internal amyloid β peptide cleavage product.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Previously presented) The chimeric peptide or peptides according to claim 21, wherein said promiscuous T helper cell epitope is a T cell epitope from tetanus toxin, pertussis toxin, diphtheria toxin, measles virus F protein, hepatitis B virus surface antigen, *Chlamydia trachomatis* major outer membrane protein, *Plasmodium falciparum* circumsporozoite, *Schistosoma mansoni* triose phosphate isomerase, or *Escherichia coli* TraT.

28. (Previously presented) The chimeric peptide or peptides according to claim 27, wherein said promiscuous T helper cell epitope has an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 8 to 27.

29. (Previously presented) The chimeric peptide or peptides according to claim 21, wherein S is glycine.

30. (Previously presented) An immunizing composition, comprising an immunizing effective amount of the chimeric peptide or peptides according to claim 21 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, excipient, diluent, or auxiliary agent.

31. (Previously presented) The immunizing composition according to claim 30, wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable auxiliary agent is an adjuvant.

32. (Previously presented) The immunizing composition according to claim 31, wherein said adjuvant is alum.

33. (Withdrawn/Currently amended) A method for immunization against the free N-terminus or free C-terminus of an amyloid β peptide internal self peptide cleavage product that is formed by proteolytic cleavage of a precursor protein or a mature protein, comprising

administering to a mammal the immunizing composition according to claim 30, for which the
amyloid β peptide internal peptide cleavage product is a self molecule of the mammal.

34. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 33, wherein the mammal is a human.

35. (Cancelled)